



**Date:** March 4, 2005  
**To:** Gerald R. Miller, City Manager  
**From:** Katherine Parsons, Public Information Officer  
**For:** Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**Subject:** Weekly Update Ending March 4, 2005

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The following weekly update highlighting various activities for the week ending March 4, 2005 is provided for your information. I hope you will find this information useful. Please feel free to contact my staff should you have any questions.

### **MAJOR WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **Police**

The Public Safety Building, located at 400 W. Broadway, is nearing the completion of its seismic retrofit and remodeling that began in mid-February 2002. The Department's administrative and investigative offices, and the South Patrol division, which are currently located at 100 Long Beach Blvd., will move to the renovated building in several phases beginning March 5 and ending in April. All Police Department phone numbers will remain the same and this transition will not affect police services to the citizens of Long Beach.

#### **City Manager**

The newly revised and updated *2005 Facts At A Glance Brochure* with the latest City phone numbers and information in a concise format, is now available online at [www.longbeach.gov](http://www.longbeach.gov). To receive a hard copy, please call 570-6999.

#### **Health and Human Services**

The second annual Long Beach Gay Men's Health Summit, sponsored by the DHHS in collaboration with the Gay and Lesbian Community Center, Being Alive Long Beach, and the Center for Behavioral Research and Services, was held on February 26. Over 100 participants attended and staff received positive feedback from participants for continuing to promote the importance of physical, emotional, mental, and social health among gay men in Long Beach.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

#### **City Manager**

A Community Forum on youth violence will be held on **Saturday, March 5** from 9:00 a.m. –11:00 a.m. at Cabrillo High School Auditorium, 2001 Santa Fe Avenue. Parents, student leaders, community leaders, City and Long Beach Unified School District officials and the Long Beach Police will be available. The public is encouraged to attend to be part of a collaborative solution to the violence in our community.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND PROJECTS**

### **City Manager (continued)**

The City of Long Beach Human Dignity Policy, created in 1998, states "Everyone should be treated with courtesy and respect, regardless of their racial background, their nation of origin, the religion they practice, their sexual orientation, gender, or disability status. It is the right of all residents to pursue their daily lives with the knowledge that they will not be threatened with violence or physical harm." For more information on the Human Dignity Program call 570-6948.

### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

The Neighborhood Resource Center will host "An Informational Workshop on the City of Long Beach's 2005-2010 Consolidated Plan" on **March 9 at 6:00 pm**. This is important information that affects how much and where Federal Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG), Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME) and American Dream Down payment Initiative (ADDI) funding is spent for: planting trees, cleaning up alleys, improving homes, removing graffiti, beautifying neighborhoods, youth recreation, assisting non-profit organizations, code enforcement, business assistance, shelter and assistance to the homeless, creating affordable housing, and home purchase assistance. The workshop is open to the public. To RSVP, please call (562) 570-1010 or e-mail [JoAnn\\_Rojas@longbeach.gov](mailto:JoAnn_Rojas@longbeach.gov).

### **Public Works, Airport**

The Airport Tour Program has five tours scheduled for various schools and organizations: March 4, International Education Resources; March 18, Emerson Elementary School; March 25, Hughes Middle School and Brownie Girls Scouts Troop 707, and March 31, City of Commerce Kids Club. This will bring the number of tour participants to over 400 people for the period January - March 2005. For information on Airport tours, please call 570-2636.

## **AWARDS**

### **Police, Public Works**

The City of Long Beach's Public Safety Building and Fire Station Seismic Renovation project has been selected for the Project Achievement Award in the Public Sector category. This prestigious award is given by the Southern California Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America, a private industry award that is being given to 3DI, the project management company, for the Public Safety Building project. This award will be presented at the Annual Scholarship and Project Achievement Awards Banquet on Thursday, March 17 at the Downtown Los Angeles Marriott.

### **AWARDS (continued)**

#### **Police**

The Rotary Club of Long Beach annually honors select police officers for performing above and beyond the call of duty. This year, Sergeants Lloyd Cox and Michael Beckman, and Motor Officer Frank Torres were honored at the Rotary Club of Long Beach Annual Community Recognition luncheon on the Queen Mary.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

#### **Health and Human Services**

Hanan Obeidi, Bioterrorism Preparedness Coordinator, attended the Center for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Preparedness Bioterrorism Coordinator's Conference in Atlanta, Georgia on February 23-25. The conference focused on enhancing the public health infrastructure and workforce development through bioterrorism preparedness activities.

#### **Fire**

Fire responded to a total of 1,413 emergency calls for service: 96 calls for fires, of which 24 involved structures; and 729 emergency medical calls, of which 507 required paramedics.

#### **Police**

Citywide, police officers responded to 961 priority one, 1,743 priority two, and 10,549 priority three calls for service, for a total of 13,253. Police officers made 460 arrests, issued 683 citations and conducted 211 field interviews.

### **NEIGHBORHOODS**

#### **Health and Human Services**

The Nutrition Services Division held a Women, Infant, and Children's Fair at the Main Health Department Facility for National Nutrition Month. The Fair included food samples of healthy alternatives for participants.

#### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

On February 26, staff and community volunteers planted 94 Carrotwood and Tristania trees in West Long Beach near Silverado Park between 32nd and 34th Streets on Adriatic, Baltic, Caspian, Delta, Easy, Fashion and Gale Avenues.

The Hellman Neighborhood Service Strategy area hosted the monthly Community Safety Forum that featured speakers from the Code Enforcement Bureau on February 23. Speakers provided 28 residents information about Community Code Enforcement beginning in this neighborhood by May 2005. Nine Hellman residents volunteered to serve as Block Captains to support this effort.

### **NEIGHBORHOODS (Continued)**

#### **Community Development, Neighborhood Services Bureau**

On February 24, 40 residents attended the Neighborhood Resource Center's "Neighborhood Improvement and Beautification Workshop." Presenters from Long Beach Organic, Rebuilding Together and the City of Long Beach's Neighborhood Services Bureau helped residents learn how they can create community gardens, renovate the homes of low-income senior and disabled homeowners in their neighborhoods and address trash and graffiti problems. City-sponsored programs highlighted at the workshop included: the Neighborhood Clean-Up Assistance Program, the Neighborhood Partners Program, the Free Paint Program and the Non-Profit Assistance Program.

Over 100 homeowners in the North Long Beach Redevelopment's Jordan High School Neighborhood Enhancement Area attended informational workshops about Community Development Home Improvement Rebate Programs and Residential Rehabilitation Loans on February 23 and February 26 at Houghton Park. A total of twenty-three applications were collected at these events. Until August 1, 2005, Jordan High School area property owners are eligible to apply for the Home Improvement Rebate Program and the Security Lock and Security Lighting Programs. In coordination with the Neighborhood Services Bureau, the Redevelopment Agency has reimbursed \$1.6 million dollars to 814 North Long Beach homeowners for home improvements since March 2000. For more information, please contact Kathleen McCleary at (562) 570-6065 or e-mail [Kathleen\\_McCleary@longbeach.gov](mailto:Kathleen_McCleary@longbeach.gov).

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Public Works, Long Beach Airport**

On February 2, 17 students from Cabrillo High School joined Airport staff in the annual Job Shadow Day. The purpose of this event is to introduce students to real-life work environments and give them an opportunity to observe employees in their normal daily work routines.

### **SPECIAL EVENTS**

#### **Police and Parks, Recreation and Marine**

The Police Athletic League (PAL) will set up a portable playground in the area of 49th Street and Ruth Avenue on Friday, March 4, 2005. Basketball hoops, tetherball, crafts, and other activities for children will be available. Police Officers from PAL and representatives from Parks, Recreation and Marine will be on hand to assist in the activities. For additional information regarding the portable playground or PAL, contact Sergeant Jeff Arndt at 562-570-8038.

#### **Library**

Fourteen girls and their babies from the Renaissance Academy of the Arts Teen Mother program graduated from the 'Raising A Reader Program' at the Long Beach Public Library on February 28. During the last twelve weeks, the girls and their babies have shared books together from the Raising A Reader book bags, establishing a family reading time in their homes. The next group of Renaissance Teen Mothers will start the Raising A Reader program in March.

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## **OTHER ITEMS OF NOTE**

### **City Manager**

City representatives are available to speak with various community groups through the City's Speakers Bureau. During the month of February, Masonic Lodge #444 requested weekly speakers to discuss the 710 Freeway (Feb. 8), Stormwater Pollution (Feb. 15), and Preserving Long Beach's Historic Buildings/Neighborhoods (Feb. 22). The response from the Masonic Lodge #444 was extremely positive. NA' AMAT USA has also made reservations for a speaker to discuss Parks, Recreation and Marine programs and services for seniors on March 8.

For a full list of City topics and to schedule a City representative to speak with your community organization, visit [www.longbeach.gov/citymanager](http://www.longbeach.gov/citymanager).

### **Health and Human Services**

DHHS' commemorated Black History Month on February 28 with a Department-wide luncheon. Over sixty staff members participated in the potluck lunch, which included speeches from staff. Black History Month is celebrated every February to promote knowledge about Black history and experience, and to disseminate information about positive contributions made by Blacks in America.

### **Long Beach Energy**

The Gas Services Bureau completed a total of 2,509 service calls. This total included 758 Gas and Water Utility Turn Ons, and 642 Turn Offs. During this period, 881 Customer Service Orders were completed for services that included lighting pilots, adjusting and inspecting appliances, completing fumigation orders, and verifying read orders. A total of 228-meter maintenance and billing related orders were completed. In addition, Gas Control/Dispatch (24/7 operation) received 716 emergency phone calls that resulted in 136 emergency orders being sent out.

GRM:kp  
Weeklyupdate 3/4/2005.doc

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